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SEPTEMBER 3, 2009

THE FRONTLINE



4TH IBCT: DOWN IN THE DIRT, DOWN TO BUSINESS

Spc. Amanda McBride

Soldiers from Company G, 703rd Base Support Battalion low crawl during combat physical training, Aug. 26. This critical training, designed to prepare 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team for its new light infantry mission, included a two-mile run, water jug carry, litter crawl as well as the low crawl. See page 3A

Ga Senators visit Stewart housing

Sgt. Joseph McAtee
3rd ID Public Affairs

Senators Saxby Chambliss and Johnny Isakson toured Fort Stewart, led by 3rd Infantry Division Commanding General Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo, to see the living conditions of the Soldiers based here firsthand, Aug. 31.

The senators traveled to Stewart to gauge how the base has rebounded from June's news that a fifth brigade combat team would not be coming.

"I get pretty emotional when I come on posts like Fort Stewart, because I know I'm around true, great American heroes," Sen. Chambliss said.

"I'm here with (Sen. Chambliss) to say thanks to our troops," added

Sen. Isakson. "We appreciate very much (the Soldiers') commitment to the country and their willingness to serve the country."

After convening at MidCoast Regional Airport at Wright Army Airfield, the delegation received a briefing that covered multiple topics concerning the 3rd ID from the nature of a modular army and the difference between heavy and light infantry brigade combat teams to the upcoming deployment schedule for the division and what they will be dealing with in Iraq.

Before concluding, Maj. Gen. Cucolo illustrated the current footprint of the 3rd ID in Georgia – spanning from Kelley Hill at Fort Benning in the west to the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield zone in the east.

See SENATORS ————— Page 2A

Fight seasonal, H1N1 Influenza

Maj. Johnny King
Chief of Army Public Health Nursing,
Winn Army Community Hospital

Seasonal flu is a serious threat to our health. Flu is a viral infection that attacks the respiratory system and is easily passed from one person to another. Every year in the United States, flu kills over 36,000 people and

causes more than 200,000 to be admitted to a hospital. This year's flu season may be much worse than usual, because the new flu virus called H1N1 is spreading in every U.S. community. We all have the power to fight the flu by limiting the spread of flu in our community. Take these simple steps to protect yourself and your family against seasonal and H1N1 flu.

See FLU ————— Page 4A

Stewart-Hunter BOSS shines, Soldiers reap the rewards

Sgt. Johnathon Jobson
3rd ID Public Affairs

The efforts of Soldiers at Fort Stewart to create better programs for

single Soldiers have not gone unnoticed. The BOSS program received awards for their actions at the Department of the Army BOSS Forum, Aug. 10-15.

See BOSS ————— Page 2A

Gate upgrades improve security for Soldiers, Families

J. Elise Van Pool
Public Affairs Specialist

If you enter Fort Stewart or Hunter Army Airfield through one of the smaller access control points you may

have been wondering what is the deal with all the construction? Why do they have the traffic down to one lane in both directions?

What you have seen are the beginning phases of a new construction

plan to upgrade access control points.

"The changes will bring Fort Stewart into the 21st century," Matthew Bolen, Project Manager in the Department of Public Works said.

The infrastructure upgrades will include construction of new canopies, wider medians between the traffic lanes, new guard booths and upgrades to the electrical and data capabilities at the ACPs.

"The updates will pave the way for automated equipment that will be installed during the second phase of the project," Bolen said.

When complete, the upgrades will allow a smoother traffic flow through the ACPs and will enhance the identification process. The upgrades are part of a Department of Defense wide project to automate ACPs at posts

around the country.

Traffic delays due to construction can be expected through July 2010. The smaller ACPs with the lightest traffic flow are first to be overhauled, followed by the larger and busier ACPs.

The second phase of the upgrade will begin include scanners. The scanners will allow for automated entry to the post.

"Once the automated equipment is fully operational it will enhance the identification process, with the ability to recognize and deny access to unauthorized personnel and vehicles," Bolen said.

Ultimately, this project will help make Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, a more secure environment for our Families, Soldiers and civilians, said Bolen

J. Elise Van Pool

Erin Flanagan and Carlos Gutierrez work on the construction of a new canopy for the access control point at Wright Army Airfield.





From the GC's Desk : Observe Suicide Prevention Month

Col. Kevin Milton
Garrison Commander

The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield community and the Army will observe Suicide Prevention Month during the month of September. This year's theme is "Improving our Soldiers and Families health: a healthy force combating high risk behaviors."

This theme conveys our commitment to a holistic approach to improve the physical, spiritual, and behavioral health of our Soldiers,

Family Members, and Army Civilians.

As part of our commitment to the health, safety, and well being of our Army Family, Stewart-Hunter is joining the Army, Department of Defense, and our nation in observing Suicide Prevention Week, Sept. 6-12.

By promoting health and risk reduction, we are convinced there



will be a drop in suicide rates. During September and during Suicide Prevention Week, you will see suicide prevention booths in high traffic areas around our installation.

These information booths will distribute information highlighting resources available to help prevent suicides.

Additionally, there will be numerous training opportunities offered

during the month of September focused on identifying the warning signs of suicide, measures for battle buddies, friends and Family Members to intervene to prevent suicide, and resources available to help our Army Family resolve problems before they seem insurmountable.

I challenge all leaders, Family Members, and Army Civilians to take advantage of these information booths and training opportunities and to make our installation a model for suicide prevention.

SENATORS

from Page 1A

"It's a wonderful opportunity when we have members of Congress, and it's an even better opportunity when we have our members of Congress come down and visit us to see how Soldiers live," Maj. Gen. Cucolo said.

The two senators enjoyed brief stops at the temporary barracks structure that houses Soldiers from 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and the new barracks currently being used by Spartan Soldiers of the 2nd HBCT. The exploration of the two sets of barracks was designed to give the senators an honest appraisal of two very

different sets of living conditions for Soldiers stationed at Stewart.

While the senators were not able to enjoy a comprehensive tour of every barracks complex, they did leave with a positive impression of Fort Stewart and the 3rd ID.

"You look at other issues that make the quality of life in the U.S. Army here at Fort Stewart just a little bit better," Sen. Chambliss said. "It gives us more reason to be confident about the fact that we're going to continue to recruit and retain the very finest young men and women in America into the Army."



Sgt. Joseph McAtee

Major General Tony Cucolo, senior commander for Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield thanks Georgia's U.S. Senators Saxby Chambliss and Johnny Isakson for visiting Fort Stewart barracks to see how Soldiers live, Aug. 31.

BOSS

from Page 1A

"Within the large installation category, we won the best installation award," said Staff Sgt. Michele Duncan, the Fort Stewart BOSS president. "We created a BOSS safety factor video, which displayed the ways we keep Soldiers from committing unsafe acts by getting them to participate in BOSS activities."

Fort Stewart also took second place in the best BOSS event category for the BOSS Walk for Pride, explained Staff Sgt. Duncan. "Through the Walk for Pride, we raised over \$7,000, and also built esprit de corps and morale amongst the Soldiers, brigades

and other units on post," she said.

The home of the Fort Stewart BOSS program is also getting major upgrades.

"We are offering a new Soldier recreation center," said Marline Parker, facility manager for the new Rocky's Zone. "The grand opening will be Sept. 3."

Gone will be the pay-to-play games, which are being replaced with the same games without the cost. The old pay by the minute computer gaming systems will be replaced with X-boxes, and Wii's. Soldiers will also be able to watch any sports event that they want on one of the 21 televisions posi-

tioned throughout the building. The only things that Soldiers will have to pay for at Rocky's Zone will be food and drinks.

"The new Rocky's Zone will also offer a first in Rocky's history - lunch hours," Parker said. "Soldiers will now be able to go to Rocky's to eat lunch and relax for a bit before finishing their duty day."

After being recognized as the best large installation BOSS program in the Army and getting a new home, the Fort Stewart BOSS program is now set to take the blue ribbons across the board next year. All they need is a little help from you.

This week in Marne History: Corporal Jerry K. Crump Earns the MOH in Korea

Dr. Judith Brown
Fort Stewart Museum

Fifty-eight years ago on Sept. 6-7, 1951, Cpl. Jerry K. Crump, of Company L, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division performed actions near the town of Ch'orwon in the Iron Triangle in central Korea for which he would be awarded the Medal of Honor.

The Iron Triangle was an extremely important strategic area in central Korea. Bounded by the towns of Ch'orwon on the southwest, Kumwha on the southeast, and P'yonggang in the north, it was a mountainous region with lowlands inside. An island of mountains, the Sobang Hills, was in the center. The Chinese had used this area to threaten the entire Korean Front in its Spring 1951 Offensive. In mid-June

the 3rd ID had taken Ch'orwon on the Triangle's west side. Then the Chinese infiltrated the Sobang Hills in July, and the 3/7 Inf. earned a Presidential Unit Citation clearing them out.

But the Iron Triangle was too important strategically for the Chinese to stay out of it permanently. So, in early September the division was preparing for another operation in the Iron Triangle to sweep enemy forces from the hills west of Ch'orwon. How necessary this operation would be was proven the night of Sept. 6-7, 1951.

Corporal Jerry Crump was not someone who would have been ordinarily considered hero material, although by September 1951, he knew a lot about war. He and his twin brother, Harry, had been born during the Great Depression on Feb. 18, 1933 in Charlotte,

N.C. They grew up in North Carolina and both ended up in the 3rd ID when they joined the Army. In November 1950, when they were 17, they landed with the rest of the 3ID in North Korea near the port of Hungnam, just as the Chinese Armies swept down on the UN forces. On Nov. 29, 1950, Harry was "severely wounded in action by a missile." Although he survived, Harry lost an eye, needed facial reconstruction, spent more than a year in the hospital, and was eventually separated from the Army for disability. Jerry remained in the 3rd ID. In fighting on June 1, 1951 near the Iron Triangle, Jerry, now 18, was himself severely wounded in action. He returned to duty a month later, just after his company had earned a PUC for clearing the Chinese from the Sobang Hills.

Now it was Sept. 6.

Company L was occupying a patrol base on Hill 284 about 5,000 yards before the front lines. Elements of two Chinese regiments moved in on the hill after dark. About 2:40 a.m. on Sept. 7, they attacked and savage hand-to-hand combat ensued, with the enemy overrunning some Company L positions.

Then Crump went into action. As two enemy soldiers tried to take a machine gun, he charged and killed both with his bayonet. Returning to his position, he found four wounded Soldiers in it. Then, an enemy soldier tossed a grenade into it. Without hesitation, Crump flung himself on the grenade, absorbing its blast and saving his comrades from death or severe injury. Somehow, Crump survived the blast, although he was riddled with shrapnel for the rest of his life. Company L held off the Chinese until dawn, when the Chinese withdrew leaving 500 casualties and much equipment behind. For this, his unit received the PUC.

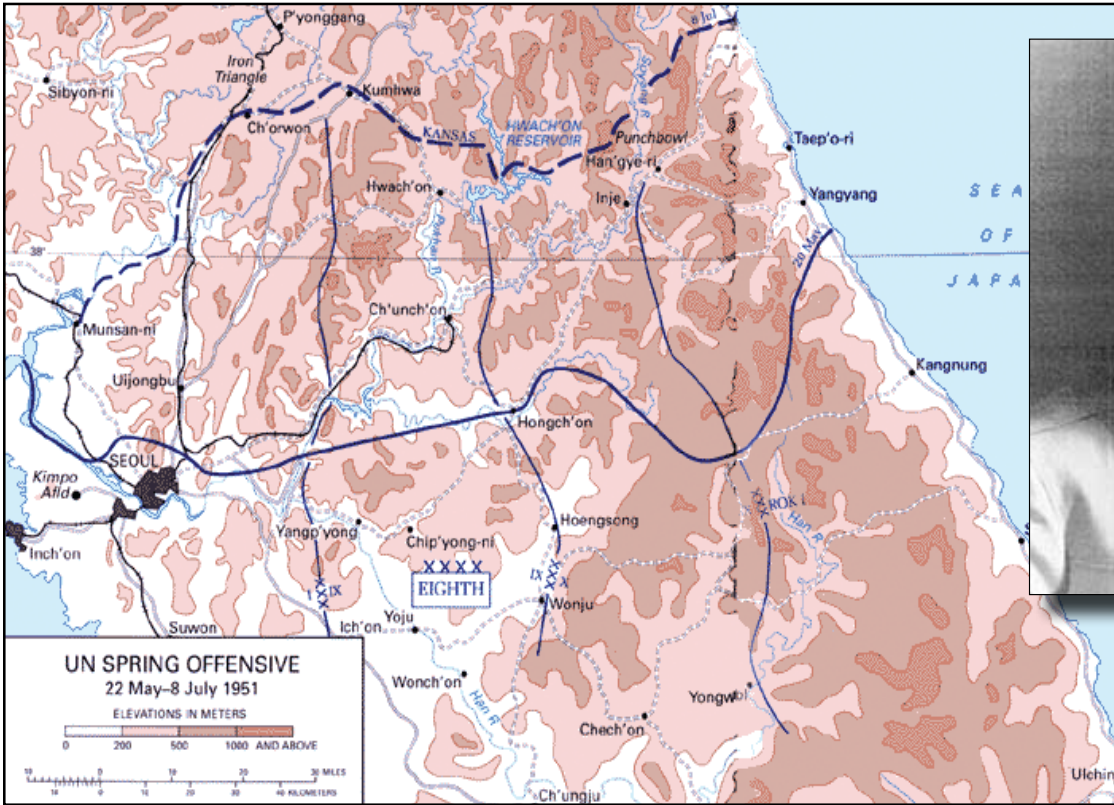
In June 1952, Cpl. Jerry Crump received the Medal of Honor in the Rose Garden of the White House from President Truman. Crump's parents, his youngest brother, and his twin, Harry, were present. Crump remained in the Army after the War. He married, had two daughters, and returned to North Carolina after retiring in 1976. He died on Jan. 10, 1977, a month short of his 44th birthday, his life truncated partly by his Korean injuries.

One daughter later said that he was their inspiration, but, "He certainly never considered himself a hero." He was mistaken.



Courtesy Photos

Corporal Jerry K. Crump, a Charlotte, N.C. native and former 3rd Infantry Division Soldier, earned the Medal of Honor for his actions Sept. 6-7, 1951 during the Korean War in the strategic area called the Iron Triangle.



COMBAT PT READIES VANGUARDS FOR NEW LIGHT-INFANTRY MISSION

Spc. Amanda McBride
4th IBCB Public Affairs

Since the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team has converted from a heavy-armored brigade to light-infantry, the Vanguards are now ensuring its troops are fit to fight on foot. This new light-fighting initiative means Soldiers must be prepared for any combat environment, and by incorporating combat drills to physical training, Company G, 703rd Brigade Support Battalion is doing just that.

In teams of four, the troops tackled combat physical training, Aug. 26. This training, according to Capt. Roy Faulkner, G Co. executive officer, was essential and included a two-mile run, water jug carry, low crawl and litter carry.

"This type of physical, strenu-

ous PT prepares our unit for combat," Capt. Faulkner said.

First Sergeant Richard Rodriguez agreed with his sentiments.

"This training is focused on combat operations and shows (us) just how ready (we) are for the next deployment," he said, adding that combat PT also helps Soldiers build endurance and learn to work as a team.

For one Soldier the PT was not only physically challenging, but reemphasized the meaning of the Soldier's Creed.

"It teaches you how not to leave a fallen comrade," said Specialist Kendrick Dixon, who added the PT helped push him to his limits.

"Combat drills test your endurance and help you learn to handle situations under pressure," Spc. Dixon said. "This kind of PT is more exciting and gets (your) adrenaline pumping."

Photos by Spc. Amanda McBride

Specialist Fernando Reyes, to G Co. , 1/76 FA, makes his second lap with his group carrying a five-gallon jug, during combat PT, Aug. 26.



Specialist Paul Karn, assigned to G Co. , 1/76 FA, races to the low crawl finish line, during Combat PT, Aug. 26.

Soldiers from G Co. , 703rd BSB, incorporate critical lifesaving skills into PT, Aug. 26.



Teams of four carry "casualties" during combat physical training, Aug. 26.

BARRACK'S LIFE: Spc Spoiled makes a Savannah hit list

Spc. Monica K. Smith

3rd Combat Aviation Public Affairs

There's something spoiled in me that likes the finer things in life. Don't get me wrong, this Texas-raised girl will hit a rodeo or school you in paintball any day, but if I had a choice, I'd rather slip into a cocktail dress, grab my Kate Spade clutch and dine at someplace like 700 Drayton – which is a restaurant on my “hit” list.

I have a list of places in Savannah that I want to indulge in before I deploy. These places include restaurants, hotels, museums – many of which tourists seem to easily cover when they come visit for a week and yet, after more than two years I still have yet to do a majority of them.

Every time I pass restaurants like Elizabeth on 37th, Sapphire Blue or 45 Bistro, the ladylike side of me scolds me for not making reservations, and just hear-

ing the names of The Pink House and Chop House come up in conversation makes me hungry.

Despite how I'm a foodie, it's not just restaurants that make my hit list. Hotels like the Mansion on Forsyth and the new Grand Bohemian (which also houses Rocks River, another restaurant on my hit list) beckon me to unwind in their whirlpool bathtubs and sleep in their luxurious sheets.

But it's not all pampering and gluttony. My mind does enjoy a bit entertainment every now and then and the Telfair Museum I'm convinced would exercise my mind - or perhaps one of Savannah's renowned trolley tours. Did you know the city of Savannah was a Christmas gift to



President Lincoln from Union Gen. William T. Sherman? Apparently you learn that on the tour.

Time is winding down before my brigade takes off for Afghanistan which means I only have a few more weekends to make reservations. Though I wish I could have dinner every night at one of Savannah's finest, my finances won't allow me so, sadly

I've had to prioritize. I skip out on fast food for a week and I get to go out on the weekend to one of the spots on my list. It's a win-win for me; I don't need to be stuffing my face with McDonald's every lunch anyway, and I usually end up saving money.

So I encourage those of you who will be deploying soon, make yourself a list. Be it a list of lavishness or a list of bars (just be

safe in your drinking), make a list, and do it. Don't deploy and wish you had done more. Live with no regrets – and no bills, if you can help it!

Restaurants:

1. 700 Drayton
2. Elizabeth on 37th Street
3. Pink House
4. Sapphire Blue
5. Chop House
6. 45 Bistro
7. Rocks on the River restaurant (at The Bohemian)
8. Chart House
9. Alligator Soul

Hotels:

1. The Mansion on Forsyth
2. The Grand Bohemian

Other:

1. Telfair Museum
2. Dolphin Tour
3. Savannah Tour

FLU

1. **Get vaccinated.** Get vaccinated against the seasonal flu within the next several weeks, and get vaccinated against H1N1 when the vaccine becomes available. The most important step in fighting the flu is to receive the flu vaccine. Flu vaccination is especially important for people who could have serious problems if they get the flu. People who are at high-risk for complications from the flu include young children, pregnant women, people with asthma, diabetes, heart or lung disease, and people 65 years and older. Health care workers, people who care for children and people who live with or care for a high-risk individual should get vaccinated to prevent spreading the flu to vulnerable people in their care.

Seasonal flu vaccination will

not protect you against H1N1 (swine) flu, though. H1N1 vaccine is expected to be locally available in mid to late-October. People at greatest risk from H1N1 flu include children, pregnant women, and people with health conditions like asthma, diabetes, and heart or lung disease. People who live with or provide care to infants who are younger than 6 months old and health-care workers should get vaccinated against H1N1 flu to prevent transmission to those in their care.

2. **Cover your sneezes and coughs.** Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.

3. **Clean your hands.** Washing your hands frequently helps protect you from flu and prevents the spread of flu.

4. **Avoid touching your eyes,**

nose, or mouth. Flu often spreads when a person touches something that is contaminated with flu virus then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.

5. **Avoid close contact.** You should avoid close contact with people who are sick, and you should keep your distance from others when you are sick. Flu symptoms include fever (>100.5), headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle aches, and sometimes diarrhea and vomiting.

6. **Stay at home when you are sick.** If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick.

7. **Take care of your yourself.** Get plenty of sleep, exercise, manage your stress, drink plenty of water, and eat healthy food. Learn how to take care of cold

or flu-like symptoms.


Winn Army Community Hospital and Tuttle Army Health Clinic have launched a community influenza vaccination campaign. Eligible TRICARE beneficiaries can receive the flu vaccine at Winn Army Community Hospital, Tuttle Army Health Clinic, and other community locations. For your convenience, vaccination activities will also be held at Fort Stewart's commissary and post exchange and Hunter Army Airfield's post exchange. Eligible Tricare beneficiaries age 2 years old and older can receive flu vaccination activities on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield on the dates below. However, children younger than 2 years old will be vaccinated at Winn's Immunization Clinic or Tuttle

Army Health Clinic. Call the Immunization Clinic at 435-6878 or Tuttle Army Health Clinic at 315-5454 for more information.

Federal employees can get vaccinated at Winn Army Community Hospital's Occupational Health Clinic, building 308 or Tuttle Army Health Clinic. Call the Occupational Health Clinic at 435-5071 or Tuttle Army Health Clinic at 315-5454 for more information.

Winn Army Community Hospital and Tuttle Army Health Clinic are committed to providing flu vaccination and important health information for our community's fight against the flu. We all must take the steps above to protect each other from the flu at home, work, and school.

**3rd Infantry Division
Equal Opportunity Office Presents
Women's Equality Day Observance**



Key Note Speaker

Dr. Condoleezza Rice

Former Secretary of State

**Main Post Chapel
2-3 p.m., Sept. 8**

Free Admission. Seating is limited.
Soldiers and Family Members contact your brigade EOA
for ticket information.
DoD Civilians and Contractors may pick up tickets at DFMWR.

**Celebrating Women's Right to Vote
Honoring the Strength of Women**

This event is hosted by: 1st HBCT. For more information, contact:
Sgt. 1st Class Williams (912) 767-7480

We're here to help!

If you or someone you know is experiencing a life-threatening emergency or is attempting to commit suicide, the first response is to call 911. For other urgent mental health concerns, specialists are available:

During Normal Duty Hours (Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.):

Fort Stewart Behavioral Health Clinic (1083 Worcester Avenue, building 9242): (912) 767-1654

Fort Stewart Family Life Chaplains: (912) 767-1814/5409

Mental Health Community/Military and Family Life Consultants: (1083 Worcester Avenue, building 9242): (912) 767-1647

Family Support Issues/Family Readiness Center, (191 Lindquist Road, building 87), (912) 767-5058

Hunter Army Airfield Tuttle Army Health Clinic (230 Duncan Drive, building 1440): (912) 315-4240/6125

During Non-Duty hours:

Winn Army Community Emergency Room, (1061 Harmon Ave): 911

On Call Chaplain: Contact the Division Operations Center (24/7) at (912) 435-9732/9733 to request chaplain assistance for yourself or for someone you believe is depressed and in danger of harming themselves.

**Suicide Prevention Hotline Line 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org
Army OneSource Help Line 1-800-342-9647**

Marne Voices Speak Out

If someone you knew was thinking about committing suicide or had suicidal thoughts, what would you do to help him or her?

“I would stay with the individual and talk to them. Tell them it's the wrong thing to do, never leaving there side.”

Sgt. Shonnone Williams
1/41st FA



“Talk to them; see if they can talk to a leader in the community, perhaps a chaplain.”

Pvt. Francis Montmeny
1/64th Armor



“Tell them they wouldn't just be hurting themselves but also others who care.”

Pvt. Thomas McQuiston
1/64th Armor



“Ask, care, and escort them. Use the motto for suicide prevention.”

Pvt. David Gates
1/64th Armor



“Ask them about it, then talk to a chaplain. Make sure to keep them around.”

Pvt. Tyler Winslow
37th HAC



“Take the person to see a chaplain. Drop everything and seek medical attention.”

Sgt. Ursula Terry
87th CSSB

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Proper form protects back from injury

Installation Safety Office

Back injuries are among the most common and costly injuries workers suffer. Back injuries include any injuries to the spinal column, as well as strains or sprains to the muscles, tendons, and ligaments that control back movement. Lifting injuries frequently involve improper lifting of common, smaller items such as boxes of computer paper or stacks of machinery manuals and seldom result from lifting 55-gallon drums or vehicle transmissions. You don't want to live with an injury to your

back! Give your fellow workers a helping hand when they need it. Talk to your supervisor about your ideas for more efficient and easier materials handling. Apply and use ergonomics to reduce the need for manual lifting in your workplace. Here are some tips for safe lifting:

- Plan your route. Select a clear path to carry your load. Have a clear spot to put the load down once you reach your destination.
- Check the weight of your load to see if you will need help. Grasp the load firmly by an outside corner and tip it toward you. You should be

able to tell if it is too heavy.

- Use the proper devices for lifting and carrying. Materials handling equipment such as handcarts and stock pickers can help you move materials without straining your back.
- Ask for help from co-workers. When you do a team lift, appoint one person as the leader who tells everyone else when to pick up the object and put it down.
- Bend your knees when you lift instead of stooping over. Hold your back straight and vertical to the ground. Keep your head up, look straight ahead, and keep your stomach muscles tight to

maintain a good lifting posture.

- Keep the item close to your body. This helps you control the load and reduces the strain on your back. You are very likely to hurt yourself when you lift or carry an object at arm's length. Here are more tips for preventing back injuries:

- Do stretching and muscle warm-ups before any physical exertion.
- Avoid excessive bending, reaching or twisting motions.
- Stand up straight but not rigid. Keep your knees flexed and maintain the natural

curves in your back.

- When sitting, choose a comfortable, relaxed position in which your back is straight. Don't slouch.

- When you are lying down, keep your back curved naturally. Use a low pillow under your head and neck.

- Avoid sleeping on your stomach.

- Maintain physical fitness. Exercise to keep the muscles of your back and abdomen strong. Arrange your work area to decrease the need for lifting and moving materials. Proper planning can reduce the need to handle stock unnecessarily.

Watch out for kids on their way to school

Installation Safety Office

Children's behavior is unpredictable. A driver is always responsible for safety, even if pedestrians act foolishly. A driver is always responsible for safety, even when pedestrians act foolishly.

As adults, we must always be cautious, especially in areas where children naturally congregate. We regularly find crowds of pedestrians, bicyclists and motor vehicles near our schools. Obeying traffic safety rules is vital to protect them.

The school crossing safety sign to the left warns us that we are near a school or a place where children are likely to be present. If your route to work or home takes you by a school, remember to give yourself added travel time for delays that will occur.

Drivers' Traffic Safety Rules:

- Pedestrians always have the right of way.
- In the absence of traffic signals, drivers must always slow down or stop for pedestrians in marked and unmarked crosswalks.
- At stop signs and when a school crossing guard is displaying an offi-

cial stop signal/command, drivers must come to a complete stop.

- Drivers must stop when approaching a school bus that is stopped to pick up or to let off children. The driver must remain stopped until the bus stop sign is retracted and red warning lights are turned off.

- Wherever a school traffic safety sign is posted drivers should slow down and watch for children.

Teach Traffic Safety to Children:

- First and foremost, set a good example by always following the traffic safety rules yourself. Children learn by example.
- Choose the safest route to school and walk it with your child prior to allowing them to travel it on their own.
- Teach children the meaning of traffic signs. Stop at all stop signs and red lights. Obey traffic signals. Look out for cars. The driver may not be able to see you.
- Never walk or run in front of a car.
- Be aware of driveways and parking lots from which cars may emerge when walking on sidewalks. Be careful in parking lots.



Spc. Gaelen Lowers

Simulator teaches sober lessons

Private Trevor Johnson, 92nd Engineer Battalion, attempts to drive the drunk-driving simulator during the Save a Life tour, Aug. 20. The program is designed to show people from a sober perspective how alcohol effects things like driving an automobile.

"People are dying all over this country from America's most violent crime," said Brian Beldyga, senior manager of Save a Life tour, who called DUI America's most violent crime. "Everyone has a story and with that story, people feel the need to make changes." This is his way of making a change and a difference.

DEPLOYMENT

FAMILY MATTERS

Preparing Families and Soldiers for deployment

MyCAA offers opportunity for spouse career advancement

Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense
Community & Family Policy

What will you do to keep busy while your Soldier is deployed? While Soldiers are away, military spouses might consider going back to school by taking advantage of the Department of Defense's expanded Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts program that provides up to \$6,000 of financial assistance for military spouses who are pursuing degree programs, licenses or credentials leading to employment in portable career fields.

Spouses of active duty members of the Department of Defense and activated members of the National Guard and Reserve Components are eligible. The period of eligibility for spouses of Guard and Reserve members is from the date of the Alert or Warning Order for Military Recall or Mobilization, through activation and deployment until 180 days following De-Mobilization.

Spouses of the severely injured, ill, wounded or killed in action are also eligible.

Military spouses who are legally separated by state law or court order are ineligible. Spouses who are active duty members or activated Guard or Reserve members themselves are ineligible.

Coast Guard is not part of the Department of Defense, therefore their spouses are not eligible.

What MyCAA Pays For: MyCAA Financial Assistance pays for expenses such as education and training programs, tuition, licensing and credentialing fees. This includes degree programs (e.g. associates, bachelors, masters, doctoral and post doctoral), continuing education classes (including those offered through professional associations), Bar, CPA and other similar exams, state certifications for teachers, medical professionals and other licensed professionals.

MyCAA does not pay for computers, school application fees, graduation or membership fees, student activity cards, child care, parking, transportation, or medical services.

NOTE: If the cost of a course includes books, supplies or other necessary equipment, MyCAA will cover that cost. Payments are made directly to schools using the MyCAA's electronic payment system. Referrals are made to federally funded English As A Second Language Classes and GED Classes and Testing Programs.

How MyCAA Financial Assistance Works: A military spouse can apply for MyCAA Financial Assistance (FA) after completing a MyCAA Career and Training Plan.

- A Career and Training Plan includes the spouse's chosen career field, name of school and course information (course titles, codes, costs and start/end dates). If incorrect information is provided, the MyCAA Financial Assistance Request will be rejected during the school

invoicing process. The spouse will then be responsible for paying course costs.

- FA Requests are initiated each time the spouse adds specific course start/end dates when it is time to enroll in one or more courses included in the spouse's Career and Training Plan.

It is critical that spouses select the correct school name/campus location and input correct course information into their Career and Training Plan to prevent billing problems. This information should be validated by school officials prior to the spouse applying for MyCAA Financial Assistance.

Career and Training Plans may be edited (e.g., courses may be changed or dropped) up to ten days prior to the start date of a course. At that point, the plan will be approved and locked for billing purposes to guarantee the spouse a seat in the class. Courses may be added up until seven days past course start dates.

Data in the Career and Training Plan is used to validate school bills for payment purposes. Approved courses may be billed by the school at or below stated costs. Schools may charge penalty fees, partial or full course costs for dropped courses according to their published Drop/Add policies. Spouses need to be familiar with these school policies.

How to Get Started: Eligible spouses can establish a MyCAA Account by visiting the MyCAA Web site ~ <https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/mycaa>. Setting up an account is an easy, self-help process. Once spouse profile information is provided, MyCAA will verify spouse eligibility. Spouses should check their eligibility and account status regularly as well as their MyCAA account message board for alerts from their account managers and guidance on next steps.

Who Can Help Spouses:

Military spouses can help themselves by:

- Visiting the MyCAA Web site <https://aiportal.acc.mil/mycaa> and establishing an account.

- Developing a Career and Training Plan and validating information with school officials prior to submitting a Financial Assistance request to prevent billing problems.

- Emailing MyCAA@InvernessTechnologies.com for MyCAA Web site technical support.

School Academic Advisors can help spouses:

- Select a school, program of study, licensing and certification exams.

- Select classes for their MyCAA Career and Training Plan. School officials need to validate that

the spouse has entered correct school name/location, course titles, codes, costs and start/end dates to avoid billing problems.

Military OneSource Career/Education Consultants (1-800-342-9647) can help spouses:

- Explore career interests, evaluate school options and compare programs of study.

- Develop and implement their Career and Training Plans successfully.

Who Can Help Schools Register for MyCAA: Schools that need MyCAA program information or want to register for the MyCAA electronic billing process may request information and assistance from MyCAASchools@MOSCenter.us. Registration tutorials are online at <https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/aiportal/>.

Keep kids on track with online tutoring

Bob Mathews

DFMWR Marketing Publicity
Specialist

Military-connected youth who could use a little extra help with school work now have a 24/7 source for that help: CYS Services Free Online Tutoring.

The online tutoring is available for students in kindergarten through 12th grade and college prep. All grade levels of math, science, English, and social studies are supported.

David Smith, Youth Education Support Services director, had high praise for the new service.

"The new, Live Homework Help® by *Tutor.com* free tutoring service is probably the best thing since sliced bread in the world of School Liaison Services," Smith said. "Deployed parents will have an ease of mind know-

ing there's a convenient 24/7 tutoring service that can support their children and teens."

To access the service, go to www.myarmyonesource.com/default.aspx. Hover over the Child, Youth and School Services tab at the top of the page and a drop-down menu will appear. CYS Services Free Online Tutoring is the fourth tab down. Click on that tab and follow the steps to register then begin using the service.

During the one-time registration, indicate Fort Stewart as the garrison and a password will be issued, Smith said. He said all tutors are thoroughly screened. Spanish-speaking tutors are also available. For more information, contact the School Liaison Officers on Fort Stewart, 767-6533 or Hunter Army Airfield, 315-6586.

Hybrid-electric vehicles saving fuel costs

Randy Murray

Fort Stewart Public Affairs

They look just like any other car or pickup, but because they're hybrid-electric vehicles, they save drivers a lot of money in fuel costs, and they reduce air pollution for everyone.

About six months ago, the Army began leasing these fuel-efficient HEVs from the General Service Administration, the federal agency that purchases non-tactical vehicles for the federal government. Nearly 500 HEVs have already been delivered to Army installations. Seventeen HEVs are now part of Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield's general dispatch fleet or maintenance vehicles.

"We told GSA we'd take as many hybrids as they can give us," said John Brinson, Transportation Motor Pool fleet manager with the Directorate of Logistics. "We currently have six Ford Fusions and 11 Chevrolet Silverado's, all hybrid-electric vehicles. We hope to get another 10 or 20 next year, probably in the spring."

A hybrid-electric vehicle combines a conventional fossil fuel propulsion system with a re-chargeable energy storage system, making a more fuel-efficient vehicle than the gas-only vehicle. When the vehicle's gas engine is running, it keeps the storage battery charged.

One feature most responsible for saving gas takes over when the vehicle comes to a complete stop, as frequently happens in urban driving.

The gas engine shuts off, rather than waste gas while idling. The vehicle is technically still running, however, by way of the electric power source, which will continue until you accelerate from the stopped position and begin moving again. Harry Sikes, DOL maintenance, said the HEV will continue to idle "silently" like this as long as the vehicle is not moving. The lack of noise from a running engine is hard to get used, Sikes said. But if you have to stop to wait on a train, road construction delays or just rush hour traffic jams, you're not wasting gas.

Nonetheless, if the vehicle is left in this "electric" idling position too long or too often, the storage battery could get low. Brinson said the vehicle will "sense" this and start up the gas engine in order to re-charge the storage battery.

Brinson explained that the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, also called the CLEAN Energy Act, requires the Army to reduce its annual petroleum consumption by 2 percent through 2015 and reduce petroleum use by 20 percent while increasing alternative fuel use by 10 percent. He said compliance with the goals of Executive Order 13423, which reinforced the congressional legislation, was slow at first.

Most of the Army's general fleet vehicles could not use ethanol in 2007 and hybrid-electric vehicles



Photos by Randy Murray

John Brinson, TMP fleet manger for DOL, points to the "Hybrid" logo on the door of one of Fort Stewart's new hybrid-electric vehicles.

were not yet practical due to high purchase costs.

Some still argue about the so-called "hybrid premium," which refers to the much higher initial cost for HEVs over conventional, gas-only vehicles. If the dollar amount alone is all that's considered, it is simple math to determine if the additional costs for the HEV is recovered by cost savings for fuel over a certain period of years.

Brinson said each car taken into the Army's general dispatch fleet is replaced every three years or 36,000 miles. Trucks and light vans are replaced every six years or 72,000 miles. He was not aware of any studies showing whether hybrid premium costs were recouped by saved fuel costs during this 3 to 6-year time period.

However, dollars alone are not the only issue when it comes to HEVs. There is a reduction of air polluting emissions directly associated with lower fossil fuel consumption, which contributes to the overall health of the Army community where the HEVs are used.

Brinson noted pollution reduction in urban environments may be particularly important to the Army, which he believes explains why GSA provides more HEVs for Army installations in the Atlanta area



This Ford Fusion is one six Fusions and 11 Chevrolet Silverado's leased by Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield from the General Service Administration, the federal agency that purchases non-tactical vehicles for the federal government. Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield has 17 HEVs in its general dispatch fleet or maintenance vehicles, and according to John Brinson, TMP fleet manager, the installation plans to get as many of the fuel-efficient vehicles as possible.

than here in coastal Georgia.

The Army has a long-range goal of fielding hybrid-electric manned ground vehicles and tactical vehicles that use bio-diesel fuels, according to the Army Energy Security Fact Sheet: 2008 Programmatic Progress.

In the meantime, Brinson said Stewart-Hunter's general dispatch fleet will consist of an ever-increasing number of HEVs. The Army will continue to lead the way with fuel-efficient technology, he said.

Education Matters



Source available for Post 9/11 GI BILL

The Post 9/11 GI Bill, Chapter 33, is a non-contributory benefit (no up-front payment required by Soldiers) for those who served on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001. The Veterans Administration Web site at www.gibill.va.gov provides in-depth eligibility information and a link to the on-line application. It also includes all information and steps concerning transferability to Family Members.

Individuals currently eligible for benefits under the Montgomery GI BILL-Active Duty or other similar programs, can continue under their program or make the decision to transfer to the Post 9/11 GI Bill. Since the choice is irrevocable, it will not be possible to switch back to the previous VA benefit program. It is recommended that you research the differences by clicking on the "More About the Post 9/11 GI Bill" bar and then selecting the benefit comparison chart link. Also try www.gibill.va.gov/CH33Estimator, which calculates the eligible tuition, fees and housing allowance for your zip code.

If you have questions after exploring the Web site, call 888-442-4551.

Free certification available to Soldiers

The pilot Army Vocational/Technical Soldier Program will fund up to \$4,500 to enroll in non-college degree courses that teach skills tailored for in-demand career fields with certification and licensure exams related to those professions. Soldiers and officers serving on active duty, to include National Guard and Reserve Soldiers on extended active duty, may acquire technical, vocational, or advanced training/ re-training.

Several hundred courses are offered for both in-class and on-line programs but must be selected from the schools listed at www.hrc.army.mil/site/education/VOTEC_Program.html and cannot exceed 18 months. In addition, Soldiers can use the AVOTEC Program to pay for Certification/ Licensure.

Complete information and enrollment steps can be found at the Web site above. Soldiers must have an active account in GoArmyEd to enroll in AVOTEC. Soldier's applications for enrollment must be received in the GoArmyEd Portal not later than Sept. 25. All AVOTEC programs of instruction must indicate a start date on or before Sept. 30,

2009 or will be rejected. AVOTEC may be used in conjunction with traditional TA, but the combined cost of both programs cannot exceed \$4,500.

Mechanics: ASE Testing Available

Automotive Service Excellence certification testing will be administered only at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center on Nov. 5, 10, and 12, room 165. The registration deadline is Sept. 15.

All Military Personnel are eligible to test. Soldiers should see the following individuals for ASE registration before the registration deadline: Wendell Johnston or Olivia Penrod at Stewart (767-9569) or Ken Brown at Hunter (315-6130).

The first three tests are free, but the Soldier must pay the \$36.00 registration fee. Recertification tests are not covered. Registration and additional test/recertification fees are due at the time of registration and are non-refundable. Examinees need to report at 8:45 a.m. on the exam dates, since testing will begin promptly at 9 a.m.

Study materials can be obtained at www.ase.com. Click on the tabs:

- 1.) "Prepare to Test"
- 2.) "ASE Study Guides"
- 3.) Select the specific test

Savannah Tech sessions offered

Savannah Technical College is offering weekly information sessions to explain their college/certificate/diploma programs and the HOPE/PELL grants.

The college representatives will highlight a different program of study every other Tuesday at 2 p.m., room 206, building 100, Fort Stewart. Upcoming meetings will cover programs offered in Savannah: Marketing Management on Sept. 8 and Automotive Programs on Sept. 22.

Many required courses for Savannah Tech's programs are taught at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center. For more information go to www.savannahtech.edu and www.gsfc.org or call 408-2430 at Stewart. You may also contact the Savannah Tech Campus in Hinesville at 408-3024 or in Savannah, 443-5700.

Trucker certification offered

Bruce Granai, admissions representative with National Training's Truck Driver and Heavy

Equipment Operator School, meets with interested Soldiers every Thursday about the school's certification program which is now available through Army Vocational/Technical Pilot Program.

He'll explain both career training programs and opportunities for employment while you enjoy some free pizza. Granai will be at Wedgy's Pizza, 364 Memorial Dr. in Hinesville, each Thursday between noon until 5 p.m.

You may contact him in advance at (800) 488-7364 ext. 245/ (904)307-6952, or by going to www.truckschool.com or www.earthmoverschool.com.

FY Guidance announced

All course enrollments with start dates through Sept. 30 must be requested in GoArmyEd before 11:59 p.m., Eastern Standard Time on Sept. 29. This enrollment cut-off is necessary to allow for the fiscal year "change-over."

GoArmyEd will not be operational Sept. 30. This enrollment cut-off has no impact on registration for courses starting Oct. 1 or later.

Funding now available to spouses

The Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts Program, "MyCAA" is for military spouses of active duty and activated Guard and Reserve servicemembers.

This centralized, virtual program provides counseling and funding up to \$6,000, to assist with licensure, certification or education opportunities leading to portable employment opportunities, trade programs or college degrees.

You may use the school of your choice, either selecting classroom or on-line delivery. All on-post and most area schools participate.

This process is all done on-line and by phone with Military One Source 1-800-342-9647.

For complete details and to initiate an account, click on
<https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/mycaa>.

STEWART-HUNTER BRIEFS

Food Show slated

Mark your calendars to attend the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield food show, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Oct. 15 at the Club Stewart ballroom.

The theme of the food show is "Feeding Those who Proudly Serve." Included in this year's show will be a variety of food choices and international cuisine from around the world, along with cooking demonstrations by vendors and Stewart-Hunter cooks.

Please join us to make this food show a special event for the entire Family.

Special Forces recruiting brief slated

A recruiter presentation will be held on Fort Stewart in building 160 on Gary Owens Street (Special Forces building) from 10 a.m.- 1:30 p.m., Sept. 9-10 and on 10 a.m., Sept. 11. A presentation will also be held at the Hunter Army Airfield Education Center in Room 26 at 1 p.m., Sept. 11.

The Recruiter Team will brief all specialists through sergeants first class regarding the benefits, challenges, and qualifications of recruiting duty.

Attendance by all NCO's is highly encouraged. Spouses may also attend. This briefing in no way obligates you for recruiting duty. If you have any questions, please contact Sgt. 1st Class Young at (877) 465-9010 (cell phone)

Stewart

FS 47 Tank Trail on Hwy 144 closed

Fort Stewart 47 Tank Trail off of Highway 144 will be closed and re-routed, beginning 8 a.m., Sept. 8 through Sept. 15.

Subject re-route is necessary for the construction of the new Infantry Brigade Combat Team project. Detour signs and traffic control devices will be dis-

played and posted for the closure duration.

Motorists are encouraged to avoid this area to minimize traffic congestion and to be alert to changes in traffic patterns around the area.

Contact Stephen Bentley, Corps of Engineers, at 767-8879 for more information. We appreciate your patience during this construction effort.

Legal office closed for Labor Day

The legal assistance office will be closed Sept. 4- 7 for the Labor Day holiday.

Hunter

Billy Mitchell Boulevard closed

Billy Mitchell Blvd. is closed for construction south of its southernmost entrance to Tominac Fitness Center to its intersection with Hickam Blvd.

Billy Mitchell Blvd. is also closed at its intersection with William Barksdale Circle.

3rd CAB DFAC to close Sept. 30

The 3rd Combat Aviation Dining Facility at Hunter Army Airfield, building 1213, will close Sept. 30 after the dinner meal in preparation for 3rd CAB's upcoming deployment.

The only dining facility remaining open on Hunter will be building 110 run by 1/75th Ranger Battalion.

Orientation set for TMP Bus Riders

For Hunter Families, whose students will be riding the TMP bus to Pulaski Elementary School this year, a TMP Bus Riders orientation is being held from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, Aug. 26 at Hunter Club, building 6015. Students will receive their bus assignments and an ID tag at the orientation.

All students are required to wear the bus ID tag every day indicating they have permission to ride the bus.

Remember to register your children with the School Liaison Office prior to Sept. 1 For more information, please call School Liaison Office at (912) 315-6586.

East 7th Street permanently closed

East 7th St. between French Rd. and Niles Ave. is permanently closed due to the construction of the new Soldier Family Assistance Center.

Detour signs and traffic control devices will be displayed for the duration of the construction.

Motorists are encouraged to avoid this area to minimize traffic congestion and to be alert to changes in traffic patterns around the area.

Award Ceremony concludes Single Soldier Appreciation, today

An award ceremony and a cookout will be held at Rocky's Zone today to conclude Single Soldier appreciation week, which allowed brigade combat Teams, separate and tenant units at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield to participate in various sporting events, including softball, flag football and basketball.

This celebration will coincide with the grand opening of the facility with its new name and new mission as a Soldiers' entertainment and recreation center.

For more information, call 767-4316, 767-9917 or 435-9751.

Balfour Beatty Communities

Stewart

Make Grandparents' Day Cards

Grandparents' Day is Sept. 13. Show them you care by making a personal, special card for them at the Southern Oaks Community Center from 3-4 p.m., Sept. 9. We'll provide the materials and postage and get them mailed for you.

Neighborhood Huddle slated

This is an opportunity for us to meet with our residents, and for residents to meet their neighbors in the community and to discuss issues and ideas on how to make the community better as a whole at the playground across from Brittin Elementary School from 10:30-11 a.m., Sept. 10. We welcome feedback from all of our residents and need your ideas to make your community a better place to live.

Join us for Freedom Walk

We will be joining hundreds of others at this special event to show our appreciation and respect for the heroes that gave their lives to save lives on September 11, 2001. We will be setting up a booth and also partici-

pating in the walk, Sept. 10. Join us for this memorable event. Static displays open at 5 p.m., walk begins at 6 p.m. at the corner of 6th street. Vendors will be located on 6th street.

Crawl into the reading tent

Crawl into our reading tent and enjoy story time at the Southern Oaks Community Center from 3-4 p.m., Sept. 16. Bring your favorite book or just sit back and enjoy one that we pick.

Stewart holds Scavenger Hunt

We'll be sending you on a wild goose chase at the Southern Oaks Community Center 3:30-4:30 p.m., Sept. 21. Participants will be divided into teams and given a list of items to find. You will be given a period of time to find as many of the items on your list as you can. The team with the most items found or who finishes first, wins!

Hunter

Crawl into the reading tent

Crawl into our reading tent and enjoy story time at the New Savannah/

New Callaway Community Center from 4-5 p.m., Friday. Bring your favorite book or just sit back and enjoy one that we pick.

Make Grandparents' Day Cards

Grandparents' Day is Sept. 13. Show them you care by making a personal, special card for them at the New Savannah/New Callaway Community Center 4-5 p.m., Sept. 8. We'll provide the materials and postage and get them mailed for you.

Neighborhood Huddle slated

This is opportunity for us to meet with our residents, and for residents to meet their neighbors in the community and to discuss issues and ideas on how to make the community better as a whole at the Balfour Beatty Communities Management Office at from 10:30-11 a.m, Sept. 11. We welcome feedback from all of our residents and need your ideas to make your community a better place to live.

Join us for Freedom Walk

Join hundreds of others at this special event to show our appreciation and respect for the heroes that gave

their lives to save lives on Sept. 11, 2001. We will be setting up a booth and also participating in the walk, Sept.11. Static displays open at 5 pm; the walk begins at 6 p.m. at the Hunter Club, walk will continue down Duncan Ave.

Hunter holds Scavenger Hunt

We'll be sending you on a wild goose chase. Participants will be divided into teams and given a list of items to find at the New Savannah/New Callaway Community Center from 4:30- 5:30 p.m., Sept. 15. You will be given a period of time to find as many of the items on your list as you can. The team with the most items found or who finishes first, wins.

Mad Hatter Party scheduled

Wear your favorite hat and come make a new one! We'll be designing all kinds of crazy hats at our Mad Hatter Party at the New Savannah/ New Callaway Community Center from 4:30- 5:30 p.m., Sept. 25.

For more information on upcoming events, go to www.fortstewartfamilyhousing.com or contact Amber Humphries at 408-2478.

Make a Difference Day: Clean out your closet

Spc. Gaelen Lowers
3rd Sustainment Bde. Public Affairs

During the months of September and October, the 3rd Sustainment Brigade will be holding donations for the 19th annual Make a Difference Day.

Created by USA Weekend Magazine, Make a Difference Day is an annual event that takes place on the fourth Saturday of every October. This year's event is Oct. 24.

Millions of people have participated. In 2008, three million people volunteered on thousands of projects throughout the country.

This year, on Fort Stewart and the surrounding communities, the 3rd Sustainment Bde. is holding a donation drive to benefit Gabriel's House, a children's foster home, and Manna House, which offers assistance and support to the homeless, poor and needy, said Lori Warnock, the 3rd Sustainment Bde. Family Readiness Support Assistant.

"Currently, Gabriel's House has 26 foster children ranging from infant to teenagers," said Warnock. "We also are supporting Manna House, which will take in anything so that they can distribute it throughout the Savannah and Hinesville communities. Both hous-

es provide great assistance to Fort Stewart and its surrounding communities."

Donation boxes will be located throughout unit areas until Oct. 20. Volunteers are being asked to participate, to pick up those boxes on a periodic basis and to provide other support.

"We are really asking for volunteer support, not just for donations, but to help put out the boxes, check the boxes and toward the end of the drive, to sort the items and actually take the items to Gabriel's House and Manna House," she said.

Requested items include clothes, shoes, toys, baby items, sheets and blankets, personal hygiene items, undergarments, bags and suitcases and anything else that anyone can spare. For more information or to volunteer, contact Lori Warnock at 767-9880 or visit Make a Difference Day on the Web at www.usaweekend.com/diffday/index.html.



LEGAL NOTICE

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Sgt. Bruce Augustus Scott, Jr.**, HHB, 1/76 FA Bn., Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314, please contact 1st Lt. Patrick Schiesser, Company G, 703rd BSB, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314; (912) 767-4200.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Pvt. Woodrow Gabriel Spangler**, HHB, 1/76 FA Bn., Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314, please contact 1st Lt. Richard Sowell, Battery A, 1/76 FA, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314; (912) 360-1436.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Spc. Delilah Ortiz**, HHC, Combat Aviation Brigade, Hunter Army Airfield, Ga. 31409, please contact Chief Warrant Officer Jiri Schottl, Hunter Army Airfield Ga., 31409; (912) 856-7504.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Spc. Joshua Bredlau**, HHC, 3/15th Inf. Regt., Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314, please contact 1st Lt. Mitchell, Battery A, HHC, 3/15th Inf. Regt. Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314;; (502) 777-2007.

4th IBCT Field Artillerymen train 'light'

Sgt. Nakisha Nieves
4th IBCT Public Affairs

When it comes to learning something new, practice makes perfect. It's no different with military training. Perfecting their capabilities as a lighter-fighting force, Soldiers with the 1st Battalion, 76th Field Artillery Regiment honed their Howitzer skills here, Aug. 28.

The Patriot Battalion, much like all other units within the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, are currently conforming to the Vanguard's transformation from a heavy brigade to the 3rd Infantry Division's sole light-infantry BCT.

For the artillerymen, this transformation means learning a new weapon system – the M119A2 Howitzer – a manually operated, light-weight, towed weapon that the battalion fielded in July, replacing the self-propelled M109A6 Paladin. According to 1st Lt. Philip Neri, Battery A, 1/76 FA, the brigade now houses about 15 M119A2 Howitzers. He said conducting fire mission crew drills is essential to understanding the new 'light' weapons.

"Today, we came out here with our guns and our trucks to go through the commands and to go through the drills so (Soldiers) can build muscle memory," said 1st Lt. Neri, who added the training

was imperative, particularly because the Patriot Battalion is responsible for providing fire power for 4th IBCT's maneuver counterparts. "If (our counterparts) request fire power, we have to be able to provide it 'time-now.'"

The platoon leader said crew drills also helped 1/76 FA Soldiers learn to function as a team consisting of a section chief, gunner, ammunition team chief, two cannoneers and a radio telephone operator, as opposed to the Paladin's six-man crew that included a driver.

"The Soldiers normally go by the rule 'You learn the guy's job above you and below you,' but on the Howitzer, you pretty much have to know everyone's job because you're working in such a close proximity the whole time," said Sgt. Steven Blackburn, Battery A, M119A2 Howitzer section chief. "If something happens and one guy can't perform a duty, the other (crewmembers) need to know how to be able to jump in while performing their job at the same time. Everybody needs to know how to do everybody's job in order to be successful."

Sergeant Blackburn recently joined the 1/76th FA after serving with a light-infantry unit based at Fort Drum, N.Y. He said his familiarization with the M119A2



Sgt. Nakisha Nieves

Soldiers with 1/76 FA, 4th IBCT, learn the use of an M119A2 Howitzer while conducting fire mission crew drills at Fort Stewart, Aug. 28.

Howitzer has made him a more effective section chief, but for the new Soldiers within the Patriot Battalion, practice on the 'light' weapon system makes perfect.

"My Soldiers give 110 percent, and you can't ask for more than that," he said. "They will push themselves to the limit. The Howitzer is a big piece of equipment.

It's not just a rifle they have to tote. It's large equipment; it's explosive ammunition; and we have to learn how to control it at all times."

The Patriot's M119A2 Howitzer training was in preparation for the battalion's upcoming section certification known as Table 7 Gunnery.

135th QM prepares to return to Fort Stewart

1st Lt. Robert W. Cowan
135th Quartermaster Company

Soldiers and officers with the 3rd Sustainment Brigade will return home Sept. 8 after being deployed since Sept. 12, 2008 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. This was the first deployment for many of the Soldiers of 135th Quartermaster Company, 87th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion. They encountered improvised explosive devices, triple digit temperatures, nonstop vehicle and equipment maintenance and indirect mortar attacks during their deployment period.

"Keeping the Soldiers focused on what needs to happen while maintaining high morale is a balance that every commander must face," said Capt. Crystal DeFrancisco of Kerrville, Texas, 135th commander. "Our Soldiers have adapted from performing their duties as a

Quartermaster Company to operating as a Transportation Company. Flexibility has been the key to our success here."

The Company pushed its 3rd platoon, "Desert Dawgs," forward to Scania, an outlying Convoy Support Center, located just a few hours south of Baghdad. There, the platoon took on the role as a route security and route reconnaissance element, providing over watch and gun truck support for convoys traveling through some of the most dangerous routes in Iraq.

The vehicles that the 135th QM used to perform their logistics and security missions were heavy duty, armored and tough. The Maintainers of the company's rolling stock could always be found at the motor pool performing services on vehicles ranging from up-armored HMMWVs to the Heavy Equipment Transporter. Warrant Officer Leon McBeth, Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Jackson

and Staff Sgt. Kareem Simmons oversaw, trained and managed the maintenance platoon, which consisted of Soldiers with nine different military occupational specialties.

Two of the company's sections that probably got the least credit were the supply section, run by Sgt. Andretta McKinley and Sgt. Jarika Williams, and the communications section, run by Sgt. Gabriel Sullivan and Spc. Shane Feiertag. These Soldiers were typically called upon to help equip a platoon with supplies or fix radio problems that occurred for a convoy ready to leave the base.

The 135th QM operated their headquarters out of Contingency Operating Base Adder in the southern region of Iraq, known as Tallil, or The City of Ur. While deployed, the 135th QM Co. accumulated more than 350,000 total miles driven in nearly 500 total missions.

Marne Places Marne Faces

Team Stewart webmaster creates multi-media experience for users

Jennifer Scales

Fort Stewart Public Affairs

As you ponder, point, and click, realize that the Team Stewart Web site at www.stewart.army.mil has been an intensive labor of love. There, you will find just about everything you want to know about Fort Stewart, Hunter Army Airfield, and Kelley Hill.

Wyatt Erminger, 3rd Infantry Division web developer contractor, has taken the two former sites of the division and garrison and made them into what is being called by some a model of installation web designing.

"The division Web site was very static and did not have a whole lot of information on it," said Erminger. "A lot of the info was missing and incomplete."

His goal was to come up with a Web site that was more innovative for the Soldiers and their Families.

"The gap between the division and the garrison had to be bridged in the effort, which would provide a bigger resource for the entire installation," said Erminger.

There is a content management system in place for updating information, which will be expanded upon in the coming months, but Erminger completes content updates on request.

"Once a person gets a general idea of the information that he or she wants placed on the site, all he needs to do is provide the information to me, which could be in the forms of an email, compact disk, or memory card," added Erminger. "Any directorate/organization

on the installation that serves a purpose to a Soldier, Family, or community member associated with Fort Stewart, Hunter Army Airfield, or Kelley Hill should be on the Web page."

Even though Erminger is a one-man shop, he credits exceptional help from Robert Davis, a fellow contractor who works at the Directorate of Information Management.

"Robert worked on the framework for the new site while I was updating information in preparation for the site combination," said Erminger.

The Team Stewart Web site is for general public use, so no matter where you are on the planet, as long as you have Internet access, it should be accessible.

External links can also be found on the site. However, there is a screening process for them. Erminger

explained that external sites have to be reviewed for possible malicious intent. Advertising and endorsements are looked over along with those which may have connections to 'shady' organizations.

"Kevin Larson, Media Chief in the Consolidated Public Affairs Office reviews them with me. If the link has a good purpose and is usually an official site, then we have no problem linking it."

When Erminger is not thinking and breathing the

computer world of HTML, ASP, graphic design, or programming code, he actually takes time out to enjoy time with his four daughters, ranging in ages from one to 13 years old, and wife Chara. You may even find him ready to tee off at the golf course or in the crowd at one of the Talladega, Alabama NASCAR races.

Though he now resides in Savannah, Erminger's roots began as an Air Force child in Montana.

"My Family moved to Slidell, La., and there I attended Louisiana Tech University," said Erminger. "I later joined the Air Force and became a meteorological technician."

After the Air Force, Erminger went into the civilian employment sector and landed jobs with the 15th ASOS at Hunter and the Army Corps of Engineers in Savannah. Though he traveled back to Louisiana, he was drawn back to this area.

For now, Erminger looks to the future for even more expansions to the Web site.

"I would like to make it media intensive and as easy as possible to navigate, while also making it the best multimedia experience for everyone, keeping it simple enough for people to navigate."

"Also, if I had my choice, I would like for persons to see the news as it happens during the day, and we may not be too far off from that point."

To get information updated on the Team Stewart Web site, contact Wyatt Erminger at 435-9875 or email him at wyatt.erminger@conus.army.mil.

Nadine Benjamin

Wyatt Erminger, Web developer contractor for the 3rd Infantry Division, updates the Team Stewart Web site. The site is the one-stop public access with information on Fort Stewart, Hunter Army Airfield, and Kelley Hill.



Seven Soldiers retire, honored

Seven Soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Division had their service recognized in a retirement ceremony at Club Stewart, Aug. 27. The Soldiers' combined experience totaled more than 150 years, including 11 years of combat service. The seven whose service was honored included:

- Sgt. Maj. Marcus Campbell, 2nd HBCT (27 years)
- Sgt. 1st Class Gerald Garvey, 3rd Sustainment Bde. (23 years)
- Sgt. 1st Class Joanie Gaskin, 1st HBCT (21 years)
- Sgt. 1st Class Natasha Mitchell, 3rd ID STB (20 years)
- Staff Sgt. Robin Guishard, 416th Trans. Co. (20 years)
- Staff Sgt. Benjamin Brinson, 188th Inf. (20 years)
- Staff Sgt. Joe E. Watson, 1st HBCT (20 years)



Sgt. Joseph McAtee



Bike paths cleared in response to FRG Roundup

Nancy Gould

A DPW worker clears the Hunter bike path near Rio Gate of hanging limbs and debris. Bike path maintenance has been stepped up around post following complaints about sand and debris on the path at the FRG Roundup on Aug. 26. Only official military ID card holders may ride on the installation Monday through Friday; non-DoD ID card holders may ride on the weekends.

3rd Infantry Division presents

Twilight Tattoo

6:30 p.m.,

Sept. 17

Cottrell Field

For more information visit

Team Stewart

at

www.stewart.army.mil



Nancy Gould

Lt. John Ferreira, an Air Station Savannah Coast Guard pilot, shows off one of six MH-65C Dolphin helicopters at the unit used for search and rescue missions. During the group's visit, First City Club members learned about the diverse mission of the Coast Guard and also watched an Air Station rescue swimmer explain how rescues are performed.

Civic club learns about military capabilities

Hunter Army Airfield hosted a visit by 30 First City Club members on Aug. 25 started the visit with a 9 a.m. command briefing by Lt. Col. Jose Aguilar, Hunter Army Airfield garrison commander.

The group toured the U.S. Coast Guard's Air Station Savannah and made their final stop of the day at the garrison's Riggers facility to watch a parachute packing demonstration.

PMCS keeps 396th Trans Co on the road

Private First Class Gregory Hesselgrave and Spc. Jarrod Streeter, 396th Transportation Company, conduct Preventive Maintenance Checks and Services on one of the company's Palletized Load System trucks while deployed to Camp Liberty, Iraq. The 396th Trans. Co. arrived in Iraq in August 2009 to begin its 12-month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



396th Transportation Company